Earth Science Enterprise Technology Planning Workshop

Ultra-High Data Rate Communications

Summary of Breakout Session
24 January 2001

Kul Bhasin (Co-Chair) - Glenn Research Center
Glenn Prescott (Co-Chair) - NASA HQ/Code Y
Faiza Lansing (Facilitator) - NMP/JPL

Agenda

Ultra-High Data Rate Communications Breakout Session

Introduction, Overview, etc		
Kul Bhasin - GRC	ession Intro	Chair
Warren Wiscombe - GSFC	Science	Invited
Keith Raney - JHU/APL	Science	Invited
Bernard Minster	Science	Invited
Alok Das - AFRL	Technology	Invited
Hamid Hemmati - JPL	Technology	Invited
James M. Budinger - GRC	Technology	Invited
Ron Parise - GSFC	Technology	Invited
Richard G. Kocinski - LM CPC	Technology	Invited
Roy Nelson - Ball Aerospace	Technology	Invited
Lawrence W. Wald - GRC	Technology	Contributed
Cathy Freeman - EMS Technologies	Technology	Contributed
Dennis Kershner - Raytheon	Technology	Contributed
Gary Matthews - Eastman Kodak	Technology	Contributed
Joseph D Warner - GRC	Technology	Contributed
Andrew Keys - MSFC	Technology	Contributed
Discussion		
Interim Summary of Issues		
Mid-Term Session Summary	Breakout Session Chairs	
Identify Technology Gaps and Develop Technology Roadmap	All participants	
LUNCH		
Complete Technology Roadmap, Requirements and Justifications	All Participants	

Ultra-High Data Rate Communications Participants

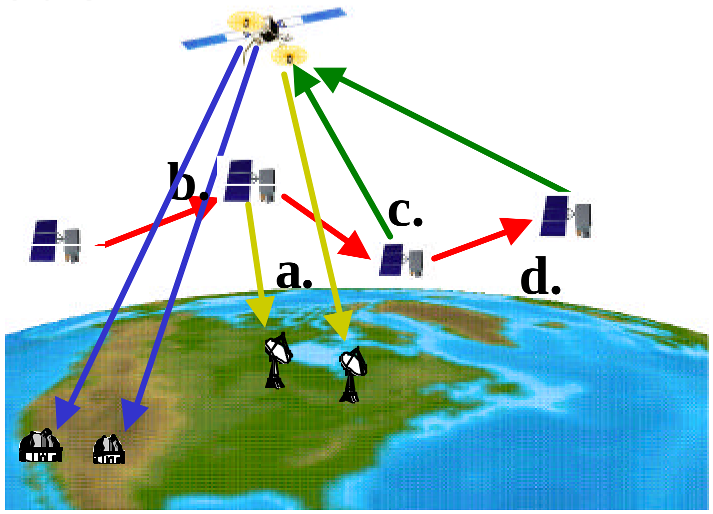
Abplanalp, Calvin	Kodak	Lesh, Jim	NASA - JPL/9700
Bhasin, Kul	NASA - GRC/6100	Minster, Bernard	UCSD
Bokulic, Bob	APL	Nelson, Roy	Ball Aerospace
Brown, Larry	Motorola	Parise, Ron	NASA - GSFC/588
Budinger, James	NASA - GRC/6100	Prescott, Glenn	NASA - HQ/Code YS
Caroglanian, Armen	NASA - GSFC/567	Russell, Tom	ITT Industries
Cherney, Robert O.	Orbital Sciences	Sands, O. Scott	NASA - GRC/6150
Enlow, David	Lockheed Martin Space	Savage, Robert	NASA - GSFC/500.0
Faithorn, Lisa	NASA - ARC/RIACS	Schulze, Ron	John Hopkins Univ./A
Fuhrman, Nick	EMS Technologies	Silverman, George	Lockheed Martin
Gray, Andrew	NASA - JPL/3310	Sroga, Jeff	Lockheed Martin
Hayden, Jeff	NASA - GRC/6100	Tsuji, Luis	Booz - Allen & Hamilt
Hayduk, Robert J.	RJH, Phd, INC/UNM	Vrotsos, Pete	NASA - GRC/6100
Huang, Marshall	TRW	Wachowicz, M.	Wageningen UR
Kershner, Dennis	Raytheon	Wald, Lawrence	NASA - GRC/6150
Keys, Andrew	NASA - MSFC/SD72	Warner, Joe	NASA - GRC/5620
Koconski, Rick	Lockheed Martin	Wende, Charles	NASA - HQ/YF
Lansing, Faiza	NASA - JPL/NMP	Wilson, Keith	NASA - JPL/3310

Specific Capability Needs for Each Measurement Class As Determined by the Scientists

Instruments Class / Needs	Hyperspectral Land Imaging	Radar Imaging	Lidar Imaging	Scatterometers	TOMS	Multi-Instrument Platform
High Data Volume	✓	✓				✓
Low Data Volume					✓	
Real Time Applications	✓	✓	✓			✓
Constellations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Earth Science Missions: Peak Data Rates Needs

Types of Links	State-of-the-Practice	2010	2015	2020
a. DD from LEO Spacecraft	X-Band 150 Mbps	10 Gbps gateway 1 Gbps D/L	25 Gbps	100 Gbps
b. DD from GEO spacecraft	150 Mbps	10 Gbps	25 Gbps	100 Gbps
c. LEO to GEO relay	2 Mbps	150 Mbps 1 Gbps		
d. Multi-spacecraft links	4 Mbps	45 Mbps	155 Mbps	N/A
e. Sensor Webs	100 bits/sec (gnd sensor to sc)	Multiple links of A, B, C, D	Multiple links of A, B, C, D	Multiple links of A, B, C, D



Links:

a. Data Distribution (DD) from LEO Spacecraft (Spacecraft to ground)

b. DD from GEO spacecraft

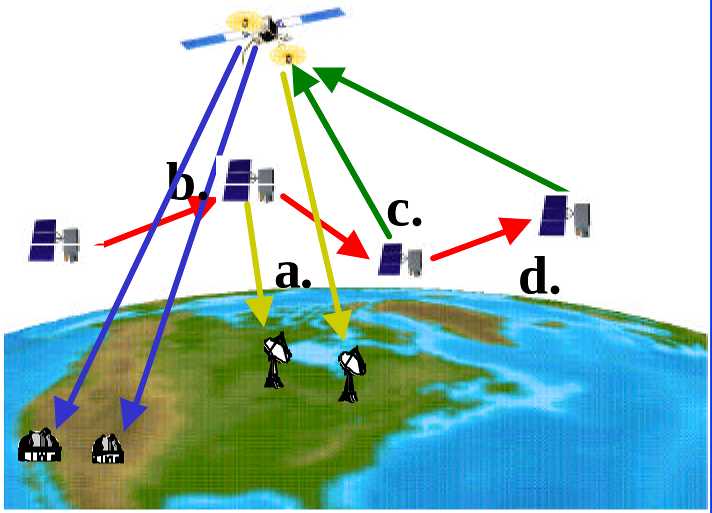
c. LEO to GEO relay

d. Multi-spacecraft links

e. Sensor Webs

Major Technology Components and TRL Levels

Types of Links	State-of-the-Practice	Future Technology Capabilities	Technology Components for Space Segment	TRL
a. DD from LEO Spacecraft	X-Band	Ka-Band and Optical	Phased array antennas Acq/Trk (Optical) High Power/BW Lasers	3 - 5
b. DD from GEO spacecraft	Ku-Band and X-Band	Ka-Band and Optical	Large reflector antennas Acq/Trk (Optical) High Power/BW Lasers	3 - 5
c. LEO to GEO relay	S-Band and Ku-Band	K-Band and Optical	Agile reconfig. Antennas Low-noise receivers High E transmitters Acq/Trk (Optical) High Power/BW Lasers	3 - 5
d. Multi-spacecraft links	UHF	UHF to W-Band and Optical	Multibeam antennas Acq/Trk (Optical) High Power/BW Lasers Mini mixed ckt components	3 - 5
e. Sensor Webs (ES Vision)	None	All of Above for physical layer. Higher layer technologies	All of the Above	



Links:

a. Data Distribution (DD) from LEO Spacecraft (Spacecraft to ground)

b. DD from GEO spacecraft

c. LEO to GEO relay

d. Multi-spacecraft links

e. Sensor Webs

Validation Plans for Ultra-High Data Rate Optical Communications

Flight Validation Rational

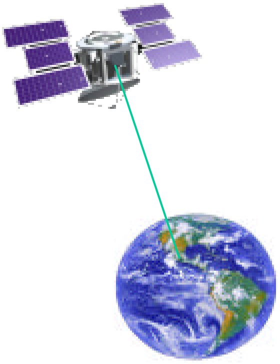
•Major Implementation Shift

•Validation of the most critical subsystem is possible only from space:

- –Acquisition, tracking and fine-pointing of laser beam over very large distances
- –Effects of (non-horizontal path) atmospheric phenomenon on the downlink and uplink laser beams and over very large distances

Accommodation Requirements

- Power 265 Watts/beam
- Volume: 1000 cm3
- Mass<2 kg



Justification

•Offers high bandwidth communications

- Provide near real-time video
- Provide better resolution of image
- Detect and characterize events that might occur on planetary bodies or on our Earth and its surrounding atmosphere.

Development and Flight Schedule

• A 2.5Gbps data-rate experiment

- •Transmitter: 10-cm aperture terminal onboard the Space-Station
- • Receiver: 1-m telescope on Earth
- • Time scale: Planned October ‘03 launch.
- • Objective: This demo would be a precursor to a future facility onboard the International Space station.

• Sets stage for a flight validation on a NMP Mission, by 2004-2005

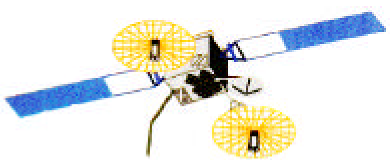
Validation Plans for Ultra-High Data Rate Radio Frequency Communications

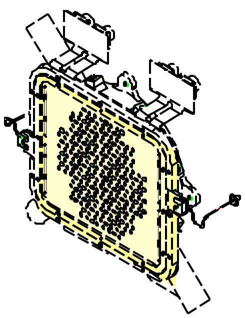
Future Feasibility Studies

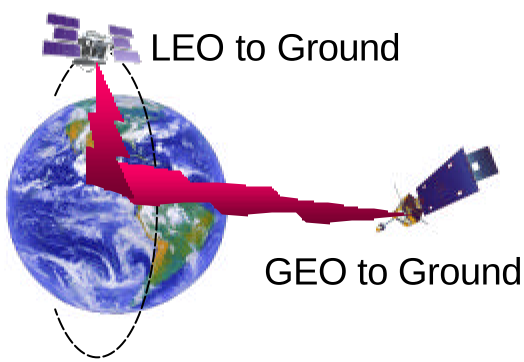
- W & V-Band / Tera-Hertz Communications
  - Identify the need
  - End-to-end System architecture
  - Ground support system
  - Reliability in space environment
  - On-board processing and data compression
  - Candidate projects

Justification

- RF communications system will provide:
  - Familiar/proven technology
  - Miniaturization, smaller mass and volume
  - Modify existing Ground Stations from Ka-Band to higher frequencies
  - Reduce power consumption







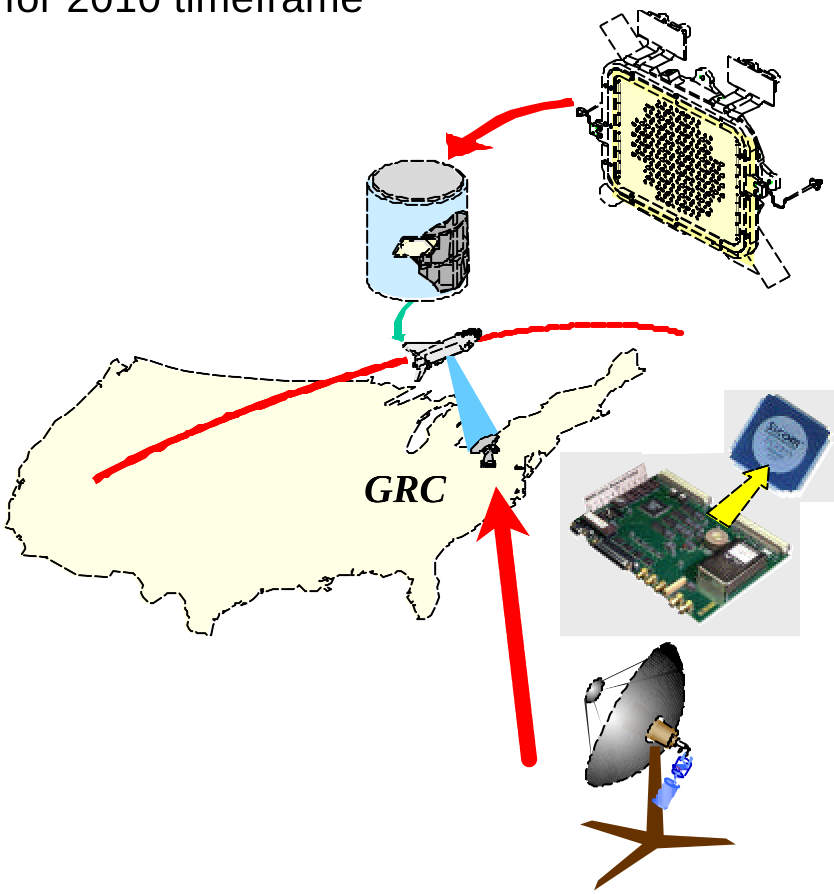
Top-Level Development and Schedule

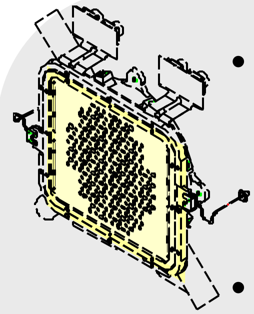
- Feasibility Study 2001-2002
- Component development 2002-2004.
- Breadboard 2004-2006
- Engineering Model 2006-2008
- Flight Hardware 2010

Ultra-High Data Rate Radio Frequency Communications On-Going Investments

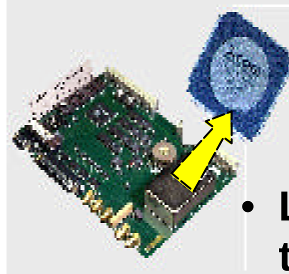
Objective

- Develop D^3 capability at 1Gbps to user (1 meter) and 10 Gbps to gateway (3.8 meter) for 2010 timeframe

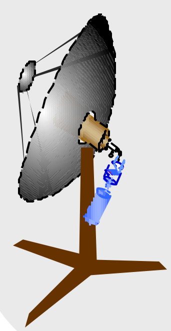




- **Ka-band, electronically-steered antennas (+/- 65º)**
  - Multi-beam MMIC based
  - Scanning reflect arrays

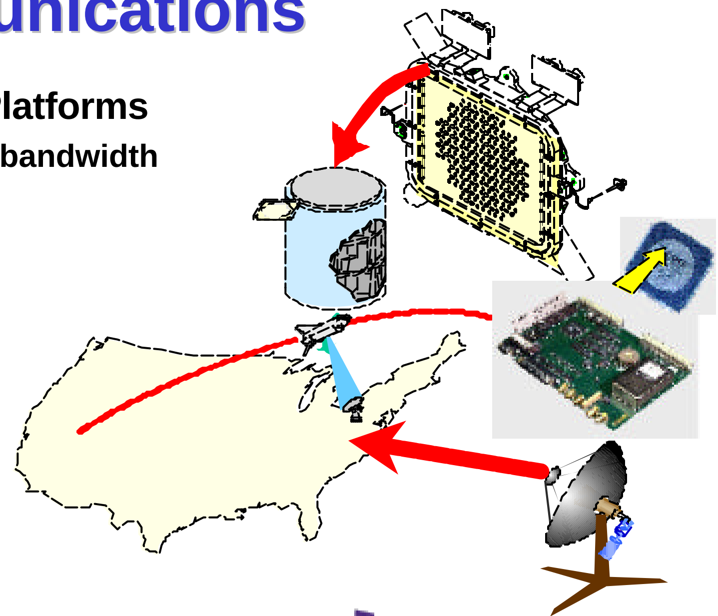


- **Bandwidth and power efficient modem/coded**
  - 3bps/Hz Bandwidth efficiency
  - 10^{-11} end-user BER
  - 622 Mbps to 12 Gpbs
  - Reduce size, mass, power by 2X
- **Low-cost, autonomous terminal (PI) 1-meter**
  - cryocooled receiver
  - open-loop tracking



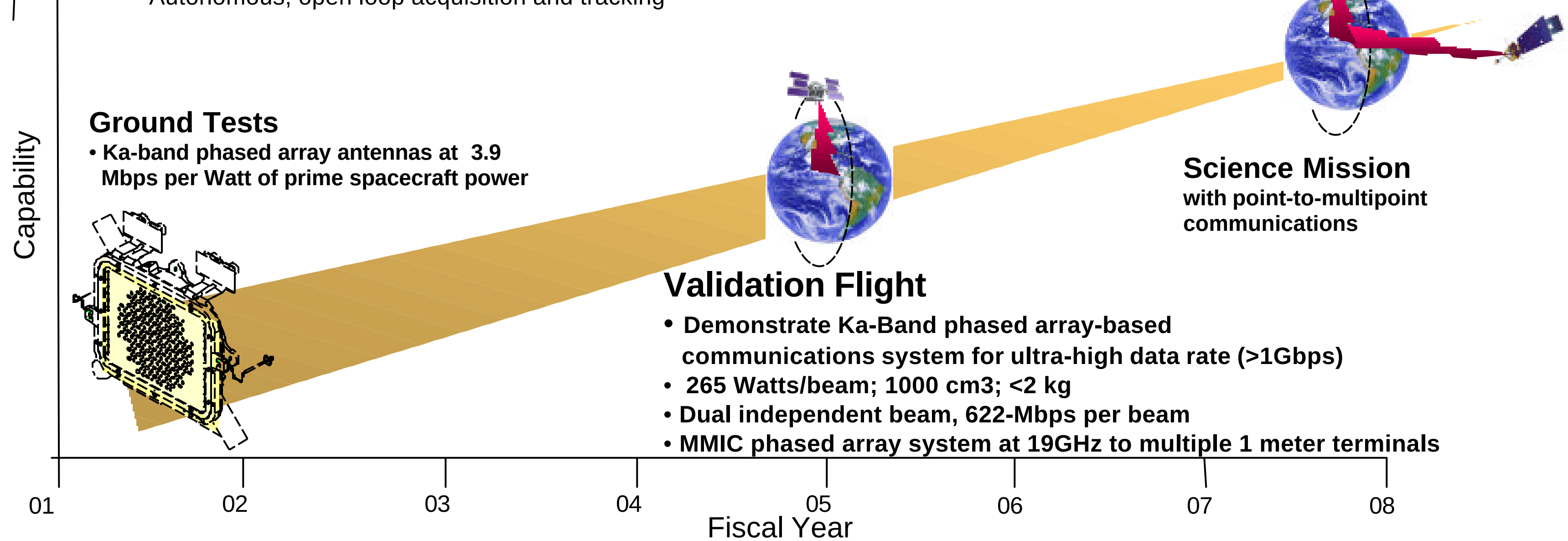
- **Integrated Internet Protocol**
  - seamless ops technology
- **Commercial Gateway**

Roadmap for Ultra-High Data Rate Radio Frequency Communications



Concept: High-Rate RF Communications for LEO and GEO Platforms

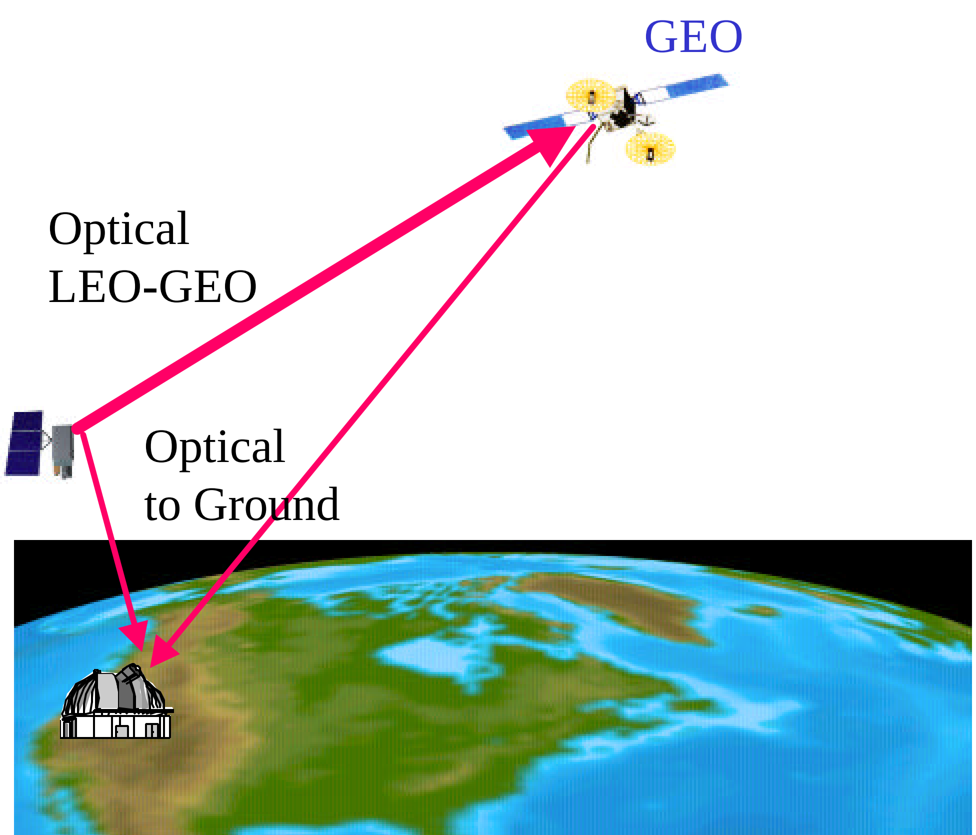
- **Science Driver: Near real-time downlink of data collected by high bandwidth active/passive instruments**
  - hyperspectral imagers, atmospheric spectrometers, SAR's, lidars
- **Benefits**
  - Reduce size, mass power, cost over State of practice
  - Increased data rate (10x) at higher QoS (10^{-11} to 10^{-6})
  - Multiple contacts at regional and local (PI) sites
  - Increased availability (all weather locations)
  - Leverage commercial infrastructure
- **Rational for Flight**
  - Atmospheric effects only evaluated from space
  - No arrays at Ka-band have flown in space
  - Long-term space effects on array ane electronics (atomic O^2, radiation, micro-meteors
  - Autonomous, open loop acquisition and tracking



Ultra-High Data Rate, Optical Communications: On-Going Investments

Objective:
•To enable the use of optical communications systems for ultra-high data rate (>2 Gbps) communications from spacecraft to spacecraft and between spacecraft to ground

Multi-Gbps Data Rate
LEO-to-GEO Optical Communications Link



Acquisition/Tracking/Pointing

- **Algorithms**
- **Focal-Plane-Array**
- **Laser Beacons (space-based)**

Telescopes

- **0.1 to 0.3 m**
- **Thermally stable**
- **High background light rejection**

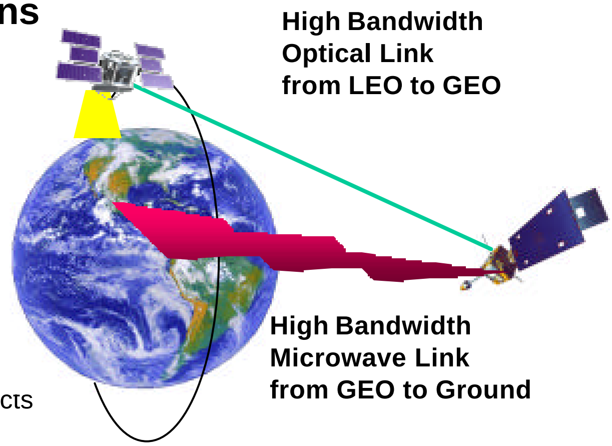
Communications

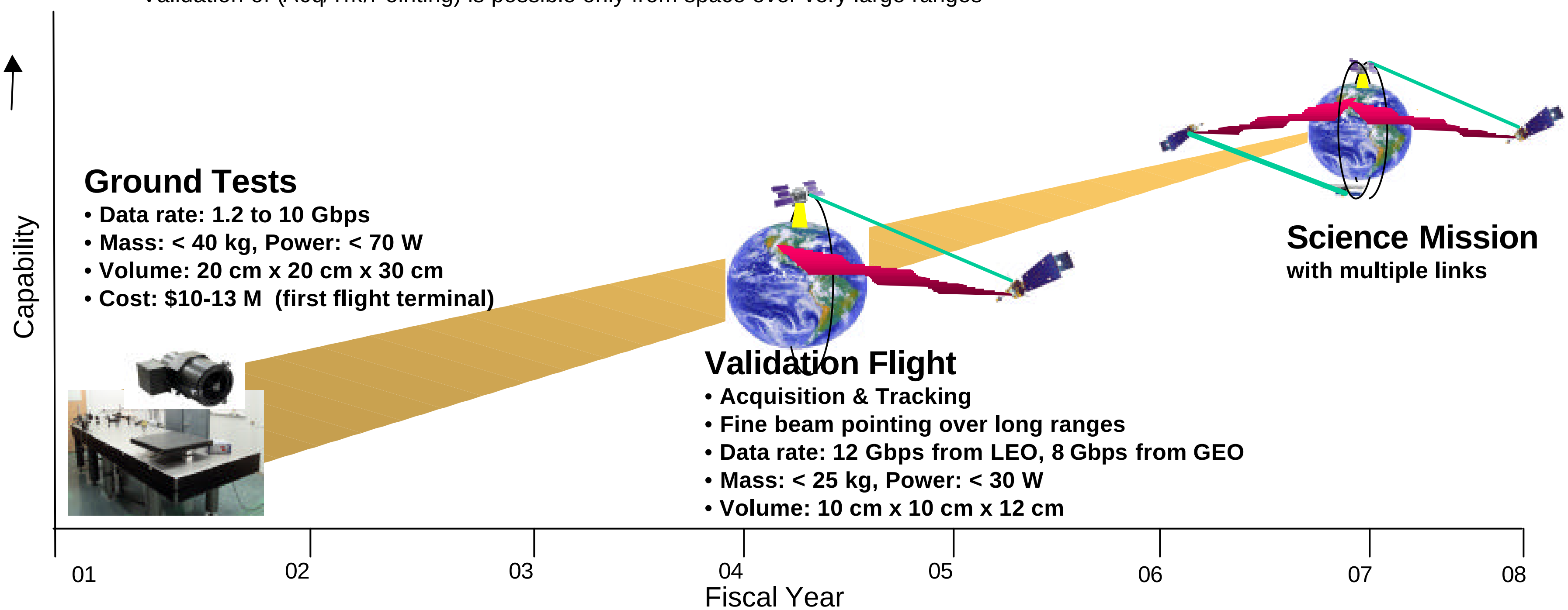
- **Modulators up to 10 Gbps**
- **1550 nm lasers**
- **Multiplexers & de-Multiplexers**
- **receivers (radiation tolerant)**

Roadmap for Ultra-High Data Rate Optical Communications

Concept: High-Rate Optical Comm for LEO to GEO Communications

- **Science Driver:** Near real-time downlink of data collected by active/passive instruments in LEO through GEO link
  - Severe storm warnings, volcanic eruptions, and other natural hazard monitoring
- **Technology Drivers**
  - Optical Comm from LEO to GEO
    - Requires much less mass, power, and cost
    - Microwave link from GEO ground
- **Validation Rationale**
  - Link availability due to cloud attenuation & other (non-horizontal path) atmospheric effects can be demonstrated only from space
  - Validation of (Acq/Trk/Pointing) is possible only from space over very large ranges





Ultra Low Noise Microwave Link From LEO to GEO Link or Earth to LEO Relay

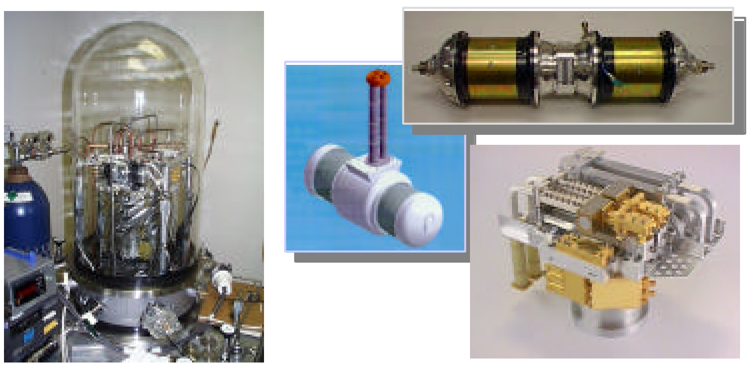
Technologies: Cryocooled receiver at Ka-band (noise temperature = 80 K)

- LEO-LEO data rate increase: 4X (or decrease transmit power requirement by 75%)
- LEO-GEO data rate increase +80% (or decrease transmit power requirement by 45%)
- Applies to data collection from
  - Earth sensors
  - Balloons
  - Planes

Validates:

- HTS RF devices
- Cryogenics for core satellite systems
- InP pseudomorphic HEMT

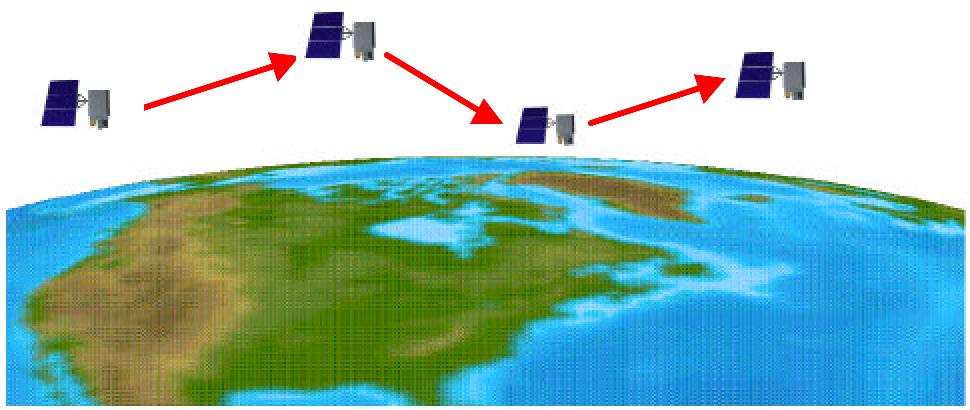
HTS Cryorecievers



Inter-Spacecraft Communications for Earth Science Constellations

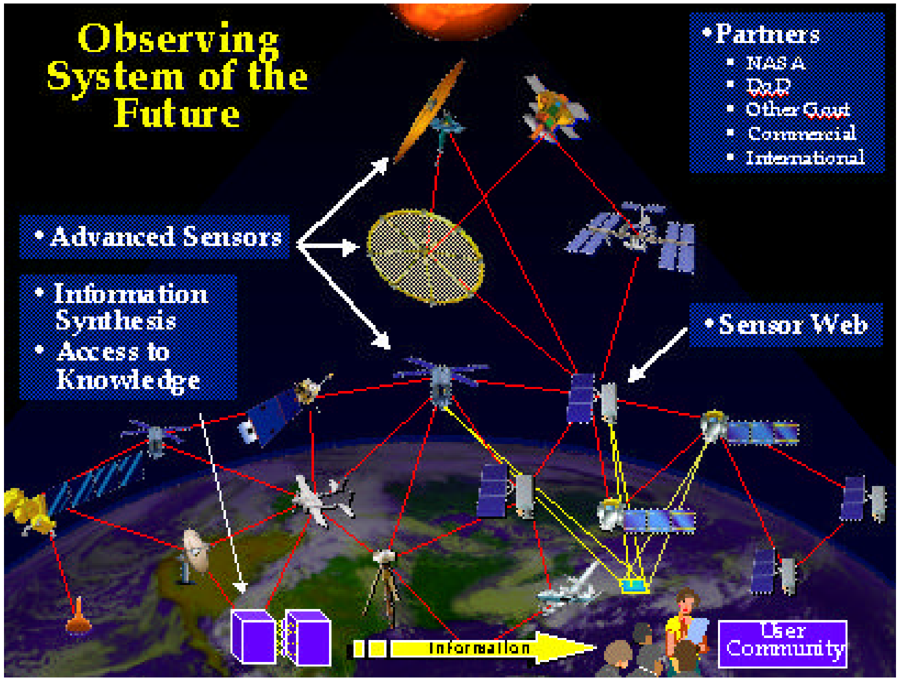
Technologies that need flight validation

- Phased array - Ka-band - 10Mbps ➲ 100Mbps ➲ Up
  - Azimuth steering - 360°, Elevation steering - ±90°
  - Relative position and attitude measurement - coarse ±1-100cm, ±0.1°-5°
- Optical - ➲ 100Mbps ➲ 1Gbps ➲ 10Gbps
  - Azimuth steering - 360°, Elevation steering - ±90°
  - Relative position and attitude measurement - fine ±1-10^6µm, ±1' - ±0.1"
- Subsystems
  - Linear LNA's
  - Modems, ASICs
- Inter-spacecraft protocols
  - TDMA, CDMA, IEEE802.11, wireless IEEE1394, ?



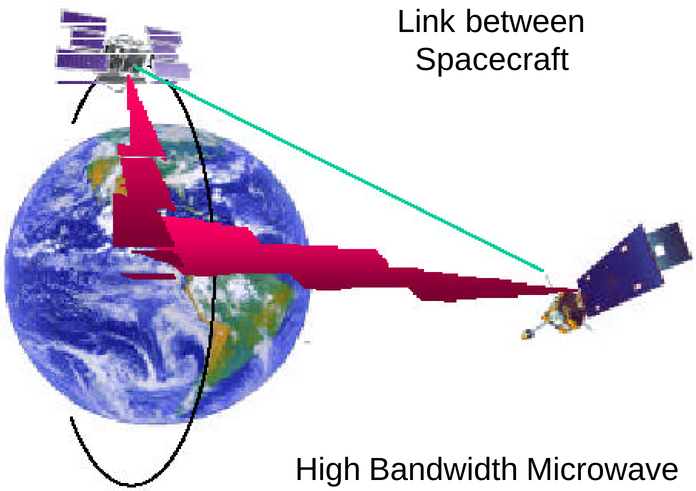
Technologies That Need Flight Validation for Sensor Web

- **Low Rate Web** (to ocean buoys, balloons, ground sensors)
  - Move up in frequency - X, Ka-band transmitter/receivers
  - Implement downlink-reconfigurable sensors
- **High Rate Web** - inter-spacecraft links between non-related spacecraft/missions to provide a high rate, general use communications network.
  - Use communications packages defined for Inter-spacecraft communications.
  - Generic network protocols
    - TDMA. CDMA, ATM, Ethernet, ?



Potential Next Steps for Ultra-High Data Rate Communications

Five Potential Areas for further feasibility studies, technology development and demonstrations were identified during the breakout session to meet Earth Science needs in High Rate Data Delivery:



- **High rate Ka-band microwave link technologies from LEO to Ground for > 1 Gbps data rates which requires integration of MMIC phased array, high speed modem and autonomous tracking terminals**
- **High rate optical link technologies from GEO to Ground for 8 Gbps**
- **Ultra low noise microwave link from LEO to GEO**
- **Inter-spacecraft communication technologies for constellations including advanced protocols**
- **Space Internet technologies for sensor web**